

Meeting Minutes for  
Rico Fire Protection District  
Regular Meeting: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Tyler Lapp.

**Roll Call:** RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Maria Casanova Sarah Eckles, Tyler Lapp and Paul Ruud.

**Guests Present:** RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz.

**Approval of Agenda:** Paul Ruud moved to approve the agenda as written; Maria Casanova seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:** Gregg Anderson noted that he had been absent for the September meeting; Kunz will correct. Sarah Eckles moved to approve the minutes for the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting as corrected; Maria Casanova seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable:** Sarah Eckles moved to approve the financial report and pay the bills; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Administrative Report:** Telluride Foundation grant was submitted. Rico Center grant will require extension. El Pomar grant request was submitted. Budget draft is on agenda.

**Grants (awarded):**

**SMPA Community Focus Grant:** Request for \$20,000 for the light rescue truck; awarded \$2,000; an additional \$2,000 was received from Basin Electric. Kunz has notified SMPA contact MartyJo Davis that the Light Rescue may not be fulfilled until 2025.

**Rico Center 2025:** \$75,000 request for light rescue truck. Awarded. Closeout: October 31<sup>st</sup>, with extension of funds possible until EOY 2025.

**Grants (applied for):**

**Telluride Foundation FY 2026 (Community):** request for \$5,000.00 in training funds. Submitted 9/27/2025.

**El Pomar (Wildland fire):** Request for \$5,981.83 for wildland fire equipment

**Fire Chief Report:** (Fire Chief Todd Jones)

**Runs:** (5) calls: (2) MVC's; a suicide; a Bobcat accident; a SAR/head injury up Bear Creek

**Training:** medical training for (4) in Cortez.

**Equipment:** Suburban will need service, possibly an alignment

**Old Business:**

**Light Rescue Truck Project:** Chief Jones has contacted Fenton fire in regards to a wet rescue with a 300 gallon tank. Some equipment, such as scene lights and a winch, may need to be added. Approximate cost of either a Dodge or Ford chassis would be under \$200k without the additional add ins. Gregg Anderson moved to authorize Jones to spend up to \$200k on the truck; Paul Ruud seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Memorandum of Understanding with Town of Rico for the Transfer of Lots to RFPD:** The Board had no further comment on the proposed MOU. Kunz will forward the final version to the Board for review. Anderson will work on the title work with Anneliese Raible at Alpine Title.

**Proposed new Fire Station Construction and Financing:** Comment made to have Thomas Bulk (architect and RVFD member) work on a revised design for the building.

RFPD 2026 Draft Budget: The Board did a quick review of anticipated revenue and expenses. Comment made that Kunz should tally up RVFD member responses to 2025 calls and reward those who responded most from the Recruitment and retention line item.

The RFPD 2026 Draft Budget will be available for public review, and the Board will revisit the draft budget at the regular November meeting before adoption at the December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 budget meeting.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

A motion to adjourn was made by at 7:40 PM. By Gregg Anderson; seconded by Sarah Eckles. Approval was unanimous.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary